

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 079787
ORIGIN DOE-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 OES-07 EB-08 SS-15
NSCE-00 PA-01 USIE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
INRE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSO-00 /070 R

DRAFTED BY DOE/IA:RWILLET,EW
APPROVED BY EB/ORF/FSE:RRMARTIN
DOE/IA:JTREAT (DRAFT)
OES/NET:MPROCHNIK (DRAFT)
EA/ANZ:WGALLAGHER
EA/EP:RWARNE
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-----016543 282305Z /63
O R 282235Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, ENRG, NZ

SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT - GEOTHERMAL COOPERATION

1. VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WILL WISH TO DISCUSS WITH NEW
ZEALAND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WAYS OF INCREASING COOPERA-
TION IN GEOTHERMAL R&D BETWEEN U.S. AND NEW ZEALAND, PRE-
FERABLY WITHIN CONTEXT OF IEA. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE
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RECEIVING BY COB FRIDAY, MARCH 31, ANY COMMENTS EMBASSY
MAY HAVE ON INCREASED COOPERATION AS DISCUSSED BELOW.

2. DURING LATE 1960'S AND EARLY 1970'S THERE WERE DIS-
CUSSIONS BETWEEN USG AND GNZ ON ESTABLISHING FORMAL
COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS IN GEOTHERMAL R&D. HOWEVER, THE
GNZ DECIDED TO EXPLOIT ITS SUBSTANTIAL NATURAL GAS RESERVES

TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY INSTEAD OF ITS MORE UNCERTAIN
GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES. NOW THE GNZ APPEARS TO BE SHIFTING
ATTENTION BACK TO GEOTHERMAL EXPLOITATION. U.S. DOE
INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT CURRENT NEW ZEALAND
GEOTHERMAL PLANS. IF THE NEW ZEALAND COMMITMENTS IN THIS
AREA ARE SIGNIFICANT ENOUGH TO FORM BASIS FOR MUTUALLY
BENEFICIAL COOPERATION, PREFERABLY WITHIN CONTEXT OF IEA,
WE WOULD WISH TO RESUME TALKS THAT COULD LEAD TO COOPERA-
TION IN AREAS OF ECONOMICS OF NON-ELECTRIC UTILIZATION OF
GEOTHERMAL ENERGY, REINJECTION, AND RESERVOIR ENGINEERING.

WE BELIEVE THESE AREAS WOULD ALSO BE OF CONSIDERABLE
INTEREST TO NEW ZEALAND.

3. WE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO INCREASE NEW ZEALAND INTEREST IN
USING THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY FOR EXPANDED COOPER-
ATION IN THIS FIELD EVEN THOUGH AT PRESENT, ONLY ONE OF
FOUR IEA GEOTHERMAL WORKING GROUPS IS ACTIVE. THAT GROUP
IS COMPOSED OF FIVE COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE U.S., AND
IS CONCERNED WITH GENERAL SUBJECT OF HOT DRY ROCK. NEW
ZEALAND DOES NOT NOW PARTICIPATE IN THAT WORKING GROUP.
COOPER

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Message Attributes

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